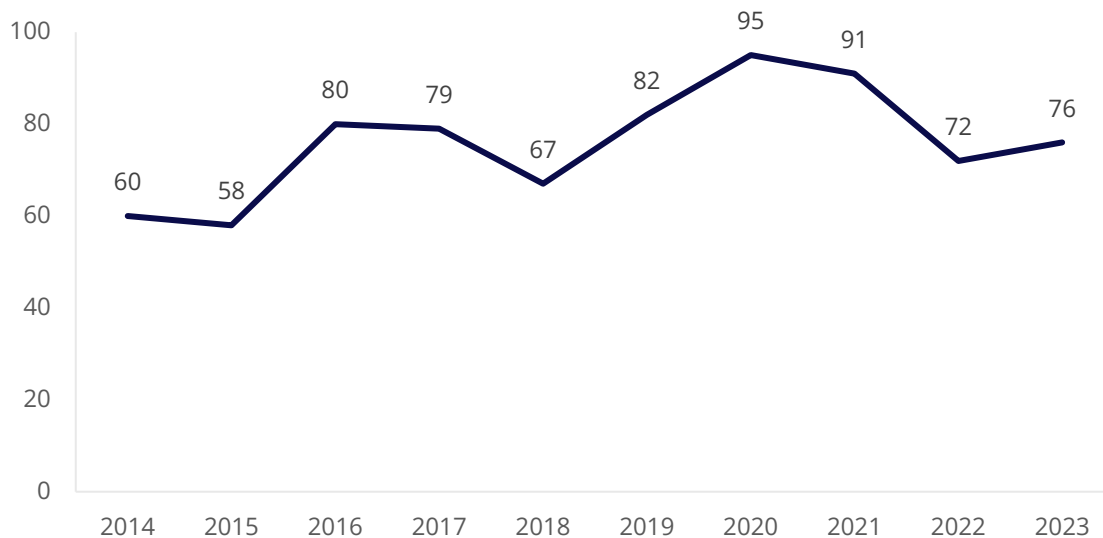


Homicides in Utah 2014–2023

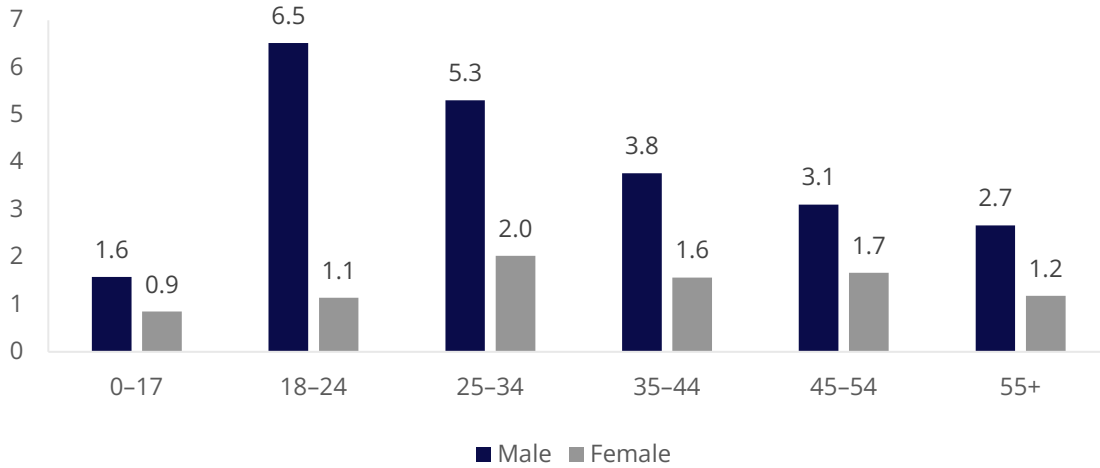
Homicides across the state

- A total of 760 Utahns died by homicide in Utah from 2014 to 2023.
- Homicides peaked in 2020 with 95 deaths.
- Males died by homicide at a higher rate than females across all age groups. Males aged 18–24 years died at a rate (6.5 per 100,000 population) almost 6 times that of females of the same age (1.1 per 100,000 population).
- The highest homicide rate among females was in those aged 25–34 years (2.0 per 100,000 population).
- Three out of four (76.0%) homicide victims aged 9 years and younger experienced abuse or neglect by a caregiver that resulted in death.²
- Utahns who were identified as American Indian/Alaska Native (9.0 per 100,000 population) and Black/African American (7.8 per 100,000 population) died by homicide at higher rates than people of other races/ethnicities.
- Firearms were the most common cause of death for homicide victims (67.6%).

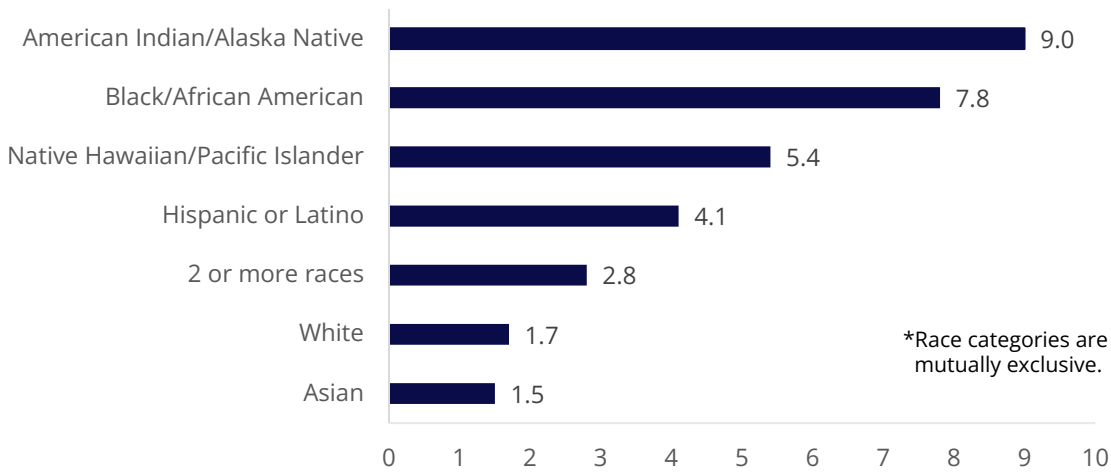
Number of homicide deaths in Utah, 2014–2023



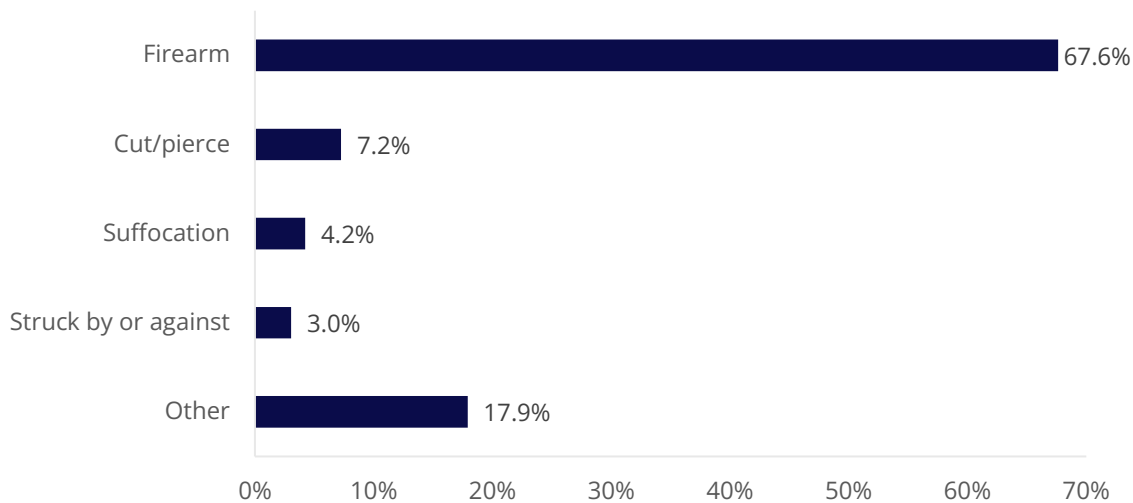
Rate of homicide deaths per 100,000 population
by age group and sex, Utah, 2014–2023



Age-adjusted rate of homicide deaths per 100,000
population by race/ethnicity, Utah, 2014–2023*



Percentage of homicide deaths by method,
Utah, 2014–2023

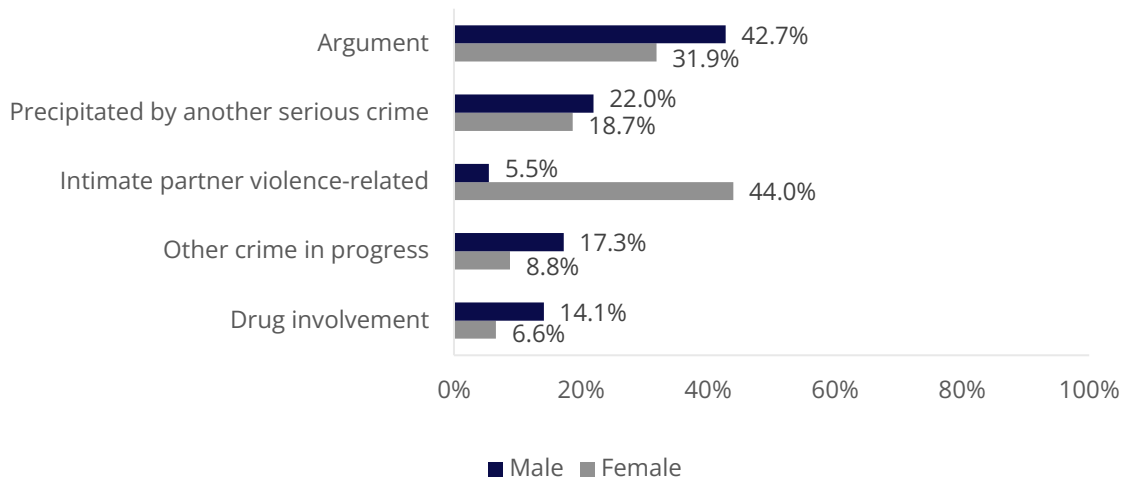


Understanding the circumstances related to homicide deaths is a step towards prevention

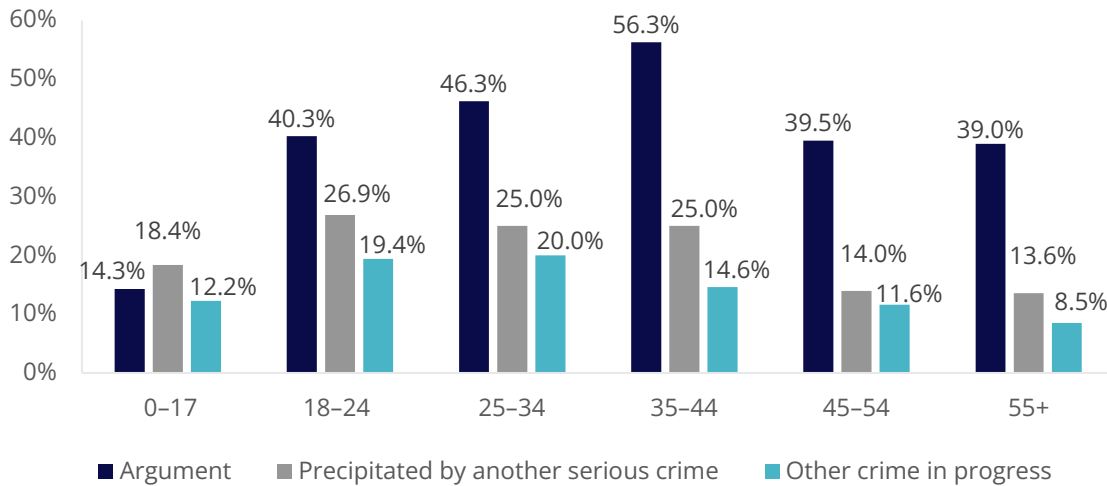
The National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) collects information about the specific circumstances that are reported or perceived as being related to the violent death. These circumstances are categorized into 5 areas: interpersonal, life stressors, mental health, substance use, and homicidal events. The percentage of circumstances is based on the number of cases in which one of these circumstances were known. A death can have more than one circumstance.

- A contributing argument or conflict was the most common circumstance for homicide victims among all age groups except for those aged 0–17 years. For this age group, the most common circumstance was precipitated by another serious crime.
- Female homicide victims (44.0%) were 8 times more likely to be killed by an intimate partner than male homicide victims (5.5%).
- Male homicide victims had higher percentages of homicide precipitated by another serious crime (22.0%), other crime in progress (17.3%), and drug involvement (14.1%). Other crime in progress indicates that the current crime was in progress at the time of the incident.
- The most common crimes that happened before a homicide were assault (33.6%), robbery (14.0%), and drug trade (12.8%).

Percentage of homicide circumstances by sex, Utah, 2018-2022



Percent of homicide circumstances by age group, Utah, 2018-2022



Homicide prevention resources

- Lethality Assessment Program, <https://udvc.org/risk-assessment/>
- Utah Domestic Violence Coalition, <https://udvc.org/>
- Utah Homicide Survivors, <https://utahhomicidesurvivors.org>
- Utah Office for Victims of Crime, <https://crimevictim.utah.gov>

References

1. Utah Death Certificate Database, Office of Vital Records and Statistics, Utah Department of Health and Human Services, 2014–2023 data queried via Utah’s Indicator Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS-PH) [cited 2025 January].
2. Utah Violent Death Reporting System, Violence and Injury Prevention Program, Utah Department of Health and Human Services, 2014–2023 data [cited 2025 January].

To learn about homicides among other groups in Utah or other violent deaths, visit <https://vipp.utah.gov/ut-vdrs/>.

This project was supported by funds from the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under grant NU17CE010136 —Advancing Surveillance of Violent Deaths Using the National Violent Death Reporting System. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by the NCIPC, CDC, DHHS, or the U.S. Government.